Reduction in staff strength in Scholarship Division

3965. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what criterion was adopted in withdrawing sixteen non-gazetted members of staff, alongwith the posts, from the Scholarship Divisions in the Department of Education;

(b) whether any study by the competent agency was conducted before making such reduction in staff strength; if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these posts have been withdrawn to show matching saving for creation of one or more posts of senior officer/officers; and

(d) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative, what action has been taken to restore the *status quo*?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) to (c) Overstafling to the extent of sixteen non-gazetted posts was identified by internal assessment, considering the schemes operated by the Bureau of Scholarships and the workload connected therewith. These posts were surrendered without involving retrenchment of any employee. for creation of posts of different categories including non-gazetted posts required for the implementation of the scheme for Vocationalisation of Secondary Education as envisaged in the National Policy on Education approved by the Parliament in 1986.

(d) In view of reply to parts (a), (b) and (c) above, no action is considered necessary.

Different pay scales for Diploma holder and degree holder ISM Physicians

3966. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the recruitment rules, pay scales and other benefits of both the Diploma holders ISM Physicians and the degree-holder Doctors were the same prior to the implementation of the Fourth Pay Commission report;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Fourth Pay Commission had recommended the lower pay scales for the Diploma holders Physicians than those of diploma holder dental Surgeons and Degree holder Doctors;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in the above circumstances, the diploma holder physicians having 15 to 20 years of service or so would be made junior to a fresh Degreeholder Physician; and

(d) if so, what action Government are taking to give justice to sufferers by removing the anomaly recommended by the Fourth Pay Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The recommendations of Fourth Pay Commission are under consideration and a final decision will be taken after due consultation with all concerned.

Affairs of the Medical Council of India

3967. SHRI G. SWAMY NAIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bombay High Court had held the continuation in office of the present President of Medical Council of India invalid;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the same person managed to get himself re-elected, which has been again challenged by a group of members of the Council;

(c) whether it is also a fact that present Vice-President of the Council is also holding the office against the provisions of the Act;

(d) whether it is a fact that about 10 persons are either elected or continuing as members of the Council against the provisions of I.M.C. Act;